

# FORGING THE FUTURE:



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## Friday FACTS

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23 August 2002

"Leadership, Partnership, and Championship"

### DoD Suicide Prevention Week

The DoD Suicide Prevention and Risk Reduction Committee (SPARRC) has decided to promote a military suicide prevention week this year! November 18-22, 2002 has been earmarked to focus upon suicide prevention. Suicide has tragically been a major killer of airmen, marines, sailors, and soldiers...

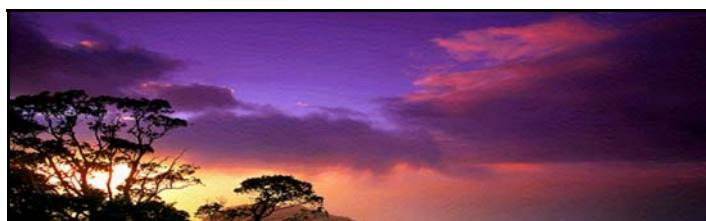
The goals of the Military Suicide Prevention week are to increase awareness, enhance vigilance and market new programs to the line, beneficiaries and providers. Current plans include a kickoff press conference at the Pentagon on Wednesday November 20. Consider how you may partner with others at your command, base and community to promote suicide prevention.

### AHRQ Releases New Systematic Evidence Reviews on Hormone Replacement Therapy

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has just released five new systematic evidence reviews of a broad spectrum of research on hormone replacement therapy (HRT) to prevent cardiovascular disease and other long-term health problems. These reviews support the findings of a recently halted clinical trial in the Women's Health Initiative (WHI) and were developed for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force as background for new recommendations on HRT use that will be published in the fall. Also published were two related articles, produced by AHRQ's Evidence-based Practice Center at Oregon Health & Science University, one in the August 20 *Annals of Internal Medicine* and the other in the August 21 *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*. These articles found that harms could exceed benefits for women taking HRT for 5 years or longer to prevent chronic conditions. For a complete announcement of the reviews released, visit: <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/3rduspstf/hrt/>.

### NEW DIRECTORATE FOR POPULATION HEALTH

On 9 August 2002, CAPT David M Sack, Commanding Officer of NEHC formally announced the merger of the Health Promotion/Population Health and Preventive Medicine directorates into a single Directorate for Population Health. The new Directorate will be headed by CAPT Bruce Bohnker, MC, USN, effective 1 September 2002. The CO explained that in view of recent developments that include NEHC's new prominence within the Navy Medicine organization (M11) and an increasing interest in Population Health Improvement within the Navy Medicine leadership, operational communities, and MTF commanders, the time is right to more prominently place Population Health within NEHC's organizational structure. The synergy that can be obtained from the pooled expertise in both directorates will enhance NEHC's ability to support Navy Medicine's move into a population-oriented perspective. Leadership from each of the HP/PH and PM teams are developing a transition plan. The CO and all the NEHC staff are looking forward to this venture and ask for your support as we make the transition. Points of contact, phone numbers, and email will remain the same for your Health Promotion contacts.



*"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." - Jackie Robinson*